

Internal Westward Migration in Germany: 1989-1994

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Abstract:

Contemporary German history has been beleaguered with political, social, and economic upheaval, the consequences of which have led to its modern day composition. One such consequence of Germany's past is the problem of internal westward migration between 1989 and 1994. This analysis looks at the political, social, and economic factors that have led to the increase of internal westward migration from the states of the former German Democratic Republic to the states of the former Federal Republic of Germany. The political, social, and economic developments of the German Democratic Republic combined with the reunification process have led to a feeling of insecurity in the east. People with a strong sense of political, social, or economic insecurity will have a stronger propensity to migration to a stable environment. A variety of governmental programs have been developed to quell the problem but they have been widely unsuccessful. Additionally, there have been a series of negative consequences caused by the existence of internal westward migration on such a scale, such as, the rise of extremist parties in the eastern states of German